



Office of Public Information
3600 South Constitution Boulevard
West Valley City, Utah 84119-3720
Office: (801) 963-3466
Mobile: (801) 232-0466
Fax: (801) 966-8455
Email: aaron.crim@wvc-ut.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 29, 2011

Contact: Bob Fitzgerald, West Valley City Fire, 801-232-0642

West Valley City Ordinance Prohibits Fireworks in Certain Areas

West Valley City – On June 28, 2011, the West Valley City Council approved an ordinance prohibiting the use of fireworks on any City-owned property as well as in any portion of the City west of SR 111. This restriction is similar to limitations placed by other communities throughout the state, and was determined to be necessary due to the passing of the new law regarding fireworks and an increase in the population and use of the areas west of SR 111.

West Valley City encourages residents to use fireworks responsibly while enjoying the holidays. The following guidelines will ensure a safe celebration:

- Purchase fireworks from reliable, licensed fireworks dealers. Read all instructions to reduce the chances of a destructive fire or debilitating injury. Follow all safety guidelines exactly.
- Never let children handle, play with or light fireworks. You must be at least 16 years of age to handle or light fireworks. Adults are to supervise any activity that includes fireworks.
- Adults should never use alcohol or drugs or be impaired while engaged in handling, using, placing or lighting fireworks.
- Aerial devices, also known as “multiple tube,” “repeater,” or “cake” fireworks, are now allowed. These fireworks travel as much as 150 feet into the air, and need sufficient space from trees, carports, structures, power lines, or other high or low obstacles. Aerial or “cake” fireworks need at least a 30 foot clearance around on the ground and at least 150 foot clearance in the air.
- Firecrackers, M-80's, cherry bombs, bottle rockets, roman candles, single or reloadable mortars, and ground salutes are still illegal. Remember that all State and Federal laws must be adhered to!
- Please use commonsense whenever you are around fireworks. Don't change or alter the fireworks in any way. Don't light them near or under a carport. Don't light them indoors. Don't carry fireworks in your pockets. Don't shoot fireworks in windy conditions.
- Keep a bucket of water or running hose nearby during the time of lighting and disposing of fireworks and in case of an emergency.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks. Keep all unused fireworks 30 feet away from the shooting area.
- Make sure other people are out of range at a reasonable distance before lighting fireworks. Do not point or throw fireworks at people, animals or where they may not be under proper control. And remember, sparklers burn at 1200 degrees Fahrenheit. They are extremely deceptive in nature and can be an extraordinarily dangerous device in the hands of children and can cause serious burns and injuries if not cared for properly.
- Light fireworks one at a time. Do not relight a firework whose fuse has burned away. Do not attempt to repair broken fireworks. Soak fireworks that did not ignite in a bucket of water. Once the firework is lit, get away quickly to a safe distance.
- Keep clear of the firework. Never place a body part above or around a burning firework. Never pickup a burning firework. Never look into the tube or stay close to the burning end of the device. Never hold a lit firework in your hand.
- Use caution with animals. Excitement, noise and lights can cause fear and stress.

###